



## STRAWBERRIES

Story and History  
Of the Strawberry and  
How I Grow them  
And my Success as a  
Grower.

W. F. Tindall, Boyne City, Mich.



### LOCATING THE STRAWBERRY BED.

To the parties setting out a small strawberry bed I would suggest: Set them close to the house as possible, that they can be got at readily; in this way they will receive better care, for you can put in odd times on them that they would not receive if located at a distance, also it makes it more convenient for the women folks (and you can bank on the women folks every time it comes to raising strawberries), anyway, if located close to the buildings or road they will be an object of pride and you will see to it that they have proper care; if located at the backside of the farm, no one will see them and they are apt to be neglected.

Almost any good soil will grow strawberries; as a rule, the soil should be porous and well drained, if growing for market and you have a warm, sandy soil, I would advise growing early varieties; if a heavy or cold soil or on ground sloping to the north, late varieties, as a usual thing, the early and late berries bring best prices. Berries in the height of the season always being lower, and if your market is limited sometimes it will be over-supplied. The one fault in raising early berries is danger of frost. Unless located in a locality unusually free from frosts in May, I would not advise growing the real early varieties.

The season can be extended somewhat by mulching, also by irrigation, giving the plant plenty of moisture at all times will almost invariably cause all berries to mature and lengthen the season.

I have had very good results extending the season by applying coarse manure before snow goes off of beds (this would not apply if ground was not frozen under snow), or before the frost starts to leave the ground if no snow. By this method I have nearly doubled the returns. When berries begin to get cheap, people wait for them to get cheaper; the result is

they sometimes do not get berries, for if a drought should come along, the season closes very suddenly and parties who have nice berries at this time can usually get their own price.

My method is to set them on ground that has had a liberal application of stable manure and planted to some hood crop the previous season, my preference is early sweet corn, for by giving this good care the ground can be sowed to some cover crop early; this, in turn, can be plowed down late in the fall or allowed to stand all winter and plowed in the spring.

By plowing late in the fall the white grub and other troublesome insects are killed by being plowed up just before winter sets in and exposed to the elements.

There are several advantages in fall plowing: One of the most important is that the work is sure to be done in season for setting the plants early; it is also very important, should the weather be bad in the spring; you can generally get time to set the plants early if the soil is ready, even though it does rain. Sometimes your stand of plants depend upon whether they are set early or not; if set late and dry weather sets in early, a large number are apt to die or be weakened so they might as well have died.

With the strawberry, the same as any other crop, the better condition the soil is put in before planting, the more certain you are to secure a good stand of plants; of course, fitting the ground will not alone produce the desired effect, but it makes it much easier to care for the plants. Many people make the very common mistake of waiting too long after setting before they begin cultivation; as a usual thing, we set the plants while the ground is very wet and we pack the ground around the plants with our feet, which forms a crust and this should be broken as soon as possible, by running close to plants with fine tooth cultivator or hoe, as the season advances we should keep farther from the plants and run cultivator shallower.

### VIEW FROM WEST MICHIGAN PIKE



Each day View in traveling north over the West Michigan Pike, you have a choice of two roads. One goes directly to Mackinaw City by Alanson, Pellston and Levering, and the other follows the shores of Little Traverse Bay, passing through Wequetonasing, Harbor Springs and Cross Village. The above view shows one of the many beauty spots passed on the shore road.

## BREEDS OF DRAFT HORSES

BY G. ARTHUR BELL

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### SUFFOLK.

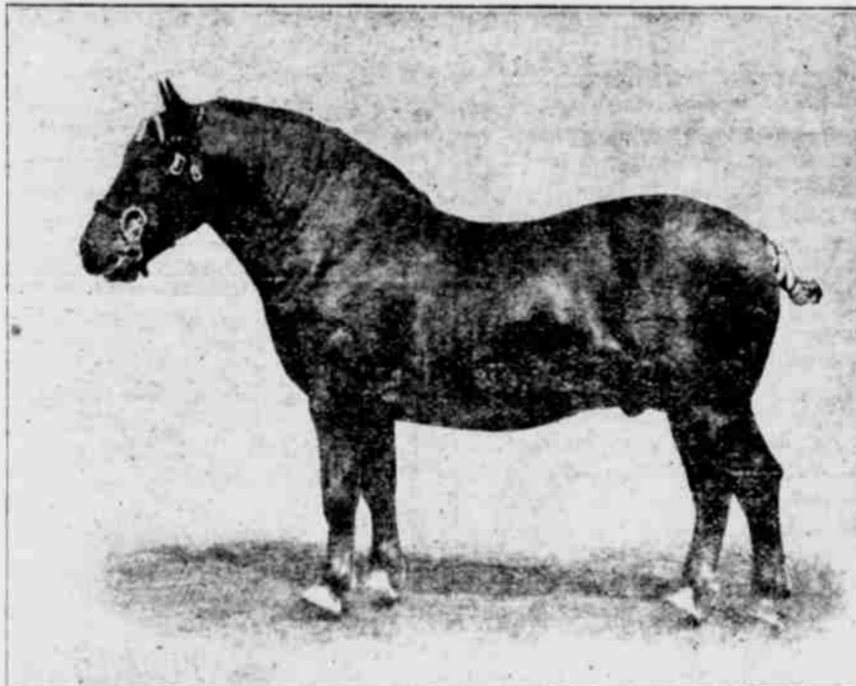
The native home of the Suffolk breed is Suffolk county, in eastern England, and the production of the breed in that country is confined almost entirely to that and adjoining counties. The Suffolk has not been bred for the heavy draft work of the city, but largely for the farm, and for this purpose it ranks high among the farmers of eastern England, who consider it capable of doing a large amount of labor on a small amount of feed and for longer periods than other drafters. The breed is used more exclusively for farm work than any other of our draft breeds.

In size the Suffolk is smaller than other drafters; and while occasionally a mature stallion in fair condition may weigh 2,000 pounds, such a weight is not characteristic of the breed. Considering their size, the

any white; their smooth, rotund form; and the clean-boned leg, devoid of the feather characteristic of the other two British draft breeds.

The breed is criticized for the lack of size to supply the heavy-draft type demanded for the heavy hauling in the cities and for being too light in bone for the size of the body.

Suffolks were first imported into this country in the early eighties and have been imported since then in small numbers, but have never gained a very strong foothold here. One reason for this has no doubt been due to the lack of size as compared with other draft breeds. Another reason why no more have been imported has probably been that they have not been bred in very large numbers in England, being confined to a limited area, and the home demand by the farmers has been sufficient to take care of most of the animals produced; and



Suffolk Stallion.

Suffolks have a deep and wide body, and the ribs have a pronounced spring, giving the body a round and full appearance. The crop is straight, the sloping crop being seldom seen in this breed. The quarters are round and well muscled. The legs are short and are particularly free from long hair or feather, and the bone has the appearance of being small compared with the size of the body. The color is always chestnut, varying from light to dark. The Suffolk is active, has a good disposition, and is rated as an easy keeper.

The distinguishing characteristics of this breed may be said to be the invariable chestnut color, with little if

furthermore, other countries have purchased a good many at prices above what Americans would pay.

The Suffolks in this country are found in small numbers in a large number of states, but have never gained any strong foothold, and consequently their adaptability to our conditions can scarcely be judged. The stallions have been crossed to some extent on mares in this country, but the demand for extreme size has prevented such crossing from being carried on sufficiently to judge of its value, except in a small way.

The secretary of the American Suffolk Association is A. Graham, Galbraith, De Kalb, Ill.



### DISTURBING THE PEACE.

The law aims to preserve to the people of the United States public orderliness at all times and tranquility in all affairs. Since the peace and orderliness of a community can be disturbed so easily and in so many ways, numerous statutes on the subject have been established in different states.

In some states the offense is called breach of the peace and in others disturbing the peace, disturbing, disorderly conduct, and such. These various offenses are usually classed in law under the general heading of misdemeanors, which is the lowest classification of unlawful acts. A general definition of this sort of misdemeanor

is a violation of public order; a disturbance of public order by an act of violence or by an act likely to produce violence, or which, causing consternation or alarm, disturbs the peace and quiet of a community.

By this it may be seen the term, disturbing the peace, is a very broad one and can be readily used in cases where a more serious offense has been committed when evidence to prove the seriousness is lacking.

The usual punishment for disturbing the peace is a fine of from one to ten dollars. The more irritating forms of disturbances are especially treated by statutes which provide for more severe punishment. There are special statutes in most states against drunkenness, keeping saloons open on Sun-

day, discharging firearms within city limits, inciting riots, breaking up meetings in churches or public buildings, misconduct on trains or street cars and such.

There is a popular belief that one may do practically as one likes on

one's own property. Such belief, however, is without foundation. The charge, disturbing the peace, is even broad enough to punish a man for loud, boisterous talking in his own home, if neighbors are disturbed and complain to the authorities.



### FUTURE WEATHER FORECAST.

The rainfall for the month of April will gradually diminish as the days pass, the temperature will average normal, with some cool spells and foggy days will be numerous, especially in eastern half of the United States. Last half of the month will bring good crop weather. Questions relating to this department and of public interest will be answered and published in these columns. Enclose stamp for private reply. Address L. N. Pritchard, Grand Rapids, Mich.

March 28th to April 3rd.

The storm in the west last week is expected to be in the Mississippi valley on Sunday, the 28th, with a general rain area in advance and snow in its wake. This storm area will reach eastern sections of the United States about Monday or Tuesday, the 29th or 30th, with warmer and drier air in the eastern states and especially those south of the Ohio river. A sharp fall of temperature will follow this storm with much cooler and stormy weather in the northern states from the Lake region and Ohio Valley westward to Pacific Coast on Monday and Tuesday.

Moderating conditions are expected to appear over western states about Monday, the 29th, Mississippi valley about Wednesday, the 31st of March, and eastern states Thursday or Friday, April 1st and 2nd. At the same time the barometer will be falling, reaching a rather low reading on the western coast about Tuesday, the 30th. From the 30th of March to about the

2nd of April, severe storms will sweep the continent. Heavy local rains, high winds, electrical and hail storms and tornadoes are all probable during these dates. On the 31st of March and 1st of April these results may be expected in severe proportions in Georgia, South Carolina and bordering states, upper Ohio valley or central lake region.

Much cooler and clear weather will follow close upon the heels of this storm area.

About April 1st, storms will renew in activity with high winds and rain crossing the United States during the next three or four days.

Under certain conditions severe storminess does not appear during the storm periods but the symptoms, such as changing wind directions, increased warmth, followed by cooler as the wind shifts to west and northwest are the only effects that are felt. Such conditions are due to a fight between polar and equatorial air currents. This is the time of year that nature fights the two extremes—summer heat and winter cold, as the sun crosses the equator and moves slowly northward. Consequently both forces are equally strong at this time. Little is understood regarding these aerial conflicts, hence this particular storm prediction can only be taken as a probability. As a general storm it is not expected to be anything serious outside of electrical storms and light rains generally, but in localities storms may take on more severe proportions.

## AN IDEAL COUNTRY SCHOOL

High ideals in sanitary requirements for rural schools are proposed in a bulletin that is distributed through the United States Bureau of Education. The bulletin comes from the Joint Committee on Health Problems in Education, composed of members of the National Education Association and the American Medical Association.

The general ideal proposed is that "the country school should be as sanitary and wholesome in essential particulars as the best home in the community."

"The school should be located in a healthful place," declares the committee. "Noise should be eliminated; children should not be obliged to walk farther than two miles or ride more than six; playgrounds should be ample and well drained; and the school ground should include a real garden or experimental farm, with trees and plants grouped artistically."

The school house, according to the bulletin, should be as nearly fireproof as possible. Doors should open outward. A small room for consultations and emergency purposes, and one for workshop, instruction in cooking and preparing refreshments, should be provided.

In the matter of ventilation and heating, the bulletin gives specific suggestions. "Fresh air should be provided through window board ventilators except where the furnace or jacketed stove is used, in which case adequate inlets and outlets should be provided. Every school should have a thermometer and temperature in cold weather should be between 66 degrees and 68 degrees Fahrenheit.

Light should be abundant. "The best arrangement," says the bulletin, "is to have the light come only from the left side of the pupil and from the long wall of the class room. The school room should receive direct sunlight sometime during the day, but the main windows should not face directly south. East or west facing is desirable. In providing shades for windows dark ones should be used at the top of windows to control light on bright days.

"There should be no dry sweeping or dusting," says the committee. "Floors and furniture should be cleaned with damp sweepers and oily cloths. Scrubbing, sunning, and airing are better than any form of fumigation."

The common drinking cup should not be tolerated. Care should be taken that drinking water always comes from a safe source; drinking fountains, located just in-

side or outside the schoolhouse, with sufficient pressure for running water, should be provided. The "water for washing should be easily accessible and should be utilized always after using the toilet and before eating seems little enough to ask, but many schools are found to be lacking in this respect."

The bulletin speaks at length upon sanitary toilets. If there is no water system, separate closets for boys and girls should be at least 50 feet from the school house in different directions.

Copies of the full set of requirements may be had free by writing to the Commissioner of Education, Washington, D. C. County superintendents of schools and county boards of education may obtain a sufficient number to supply all their teachers and school committees.

Port Huron—The old rumor that a number of canal-sized steamers will be sent from Canada to England through the Welland canal to be used as transports, mine draggers and for other purposes is again revived. It is pointed out that many boats of this class were built in Scotch and English shipyards and would have no difficulty crossing the ocean.



DR. WM. DE KLINE.

President of the West Michigan Pike Association and one of the good roads men for the state. He has given generously of his time and talents for years to the cause of better highways and has done this with no thought of reward other than that of seeing his neighbors enjoy opportunities for exchanging ideas and commodities.

## OUR POULTRY DEPARTMENT

ERNEST B. BLETT.

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.



### House Cleaning Time.

Any old time is a good time to clean up if the house is not clean and sanitary. Dirt and dampness are disease breeders and cause great loss to poultrymen.

Usually with the rush of work in the spring time and early summer the poultry house is neglected. Better start house cleaning now. If earth floor, take out a few inches and replace with clean, sharp sand and gravel. Remove the nesting material and wash out the nests with a good strong disinfectant and white wash every part of the interior, using good strong disinfectant in the white wash. Replace new nesting material using tobacco stems in bottom of nests and fine old straw on top. The tobacco stems may be secured of any cigar manufacturer, which nearly every little town now has.

We know of no better disinfectant and one that is soluble in water and may be used in washing incubators, brooders, etc., as well as working good in whitewash than the Maine Cresol Disinfecting Solution, which is made as follows: "Measure out 3 1/2 quarts of raw linseed oil in a 4 or 5-gallon stone crock; then weigh out in a dish 1 pound 6 ounces of commercial lye or 'Rabbit's potash.' Dissolve this lye in as little water as will completely dissolve it. Start with 1/2 pint of water, and if this will not dissolve all the lye, add more water slowly. Let this stand for at least 3 hours until the lye is completely dissolved and the solution is cold; then add the cold lye solution of lye to the oil. After the lye is added continue the stirring until the mixture is in the condition and has the texture of a smooth, homogeneous liquid soap. This ought not to take more than a half hour. Then while the soap is in this liquid state, and before it has a chance to harden, add, with constant stirring,

8 1/2 quarts of commercial cresol. The cresol will blend perfectly with the soap solution and make a clear, dark brown fluid. The resulting solution of cresol soap is then ready to use. This cresol soap will mix in any proportion with water and yield a clear solution."

### POULTRY POINTERS.

Raising of broilers is a business by itself.

A chilled egg will bring a weak chick, even if it hatches.

Don't put too many chicks in a brooder; crowding should be avoided all times.

The "best breed" is the one which you prefer. Each will do better in the hands of admirers.

Do not allow dogs around poultry, unless they are grown together. Anything that frightens the laying hen is apt to stop her egg yield to some extent.

If you only have one incubator and you should become doubtful about the thermometer not being correct or its going wrong during a hatch, take it and place under sitting hens, two or three, and in this way you can test it and make sure of its correctness.

Our knowledge of yesterday is not sufficient for today, for the reason that new ideas, new experiments, and new lessons are coming continually, in fact it is utterly impossible to know it all and we must keep on learning in order to keep along with the procession.

Hen manure is very valuable as a fertilizer and each poultryman should have a place where it may be kept dry and in the best of condition, where it may be used or sold from as needed. Some gardeners have estimated its value at a dollar a bushel, but even at half that price you will be surprised the value you can save during the year from your poultry. Every poultry farm of any size should have a building for storing the manure away.